

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

FIRST SELECTMAN JASON E. BOWSZA

September 1, 2020

Good evening. This is First Selectman Jason Bowsza reaching out to all town residents. A copy of this message can be found on the Town's website.

Today, our local health district notified us that we have no new cases of COVID-19 in East Windsor. No new cases have been reported to us in more than a week. The Connecticut Department of Public Health is still reporting a total of 198 confirmed cases in town. In Connecticut, there are 52,879 cases as of yesterday.

In the last two weeks, we've had reports of a COVID-19 outbreak on a farm in town, and we've been notified of an outbreak at a factory in East Windsor. At the factory, none of the people who have tested positive are East Windsor residents. At both locations, the Town has worked closely with local and state public health officials to ensure that all appropriate measures are being undertaken to protect the health of their employees and of the general public. Local health officials are working on a contact tracing investigation and to provide testing opportunities for employees at both locations.

We know that a resurgence of COVID-positive diagnoses is likely to happen. Colleges and school districts restarting, the onset of cold and flu season, and a sense of complacency are all likely to contribute to a resurgence of infections – even if stewards of public places and business owners are doing everything right. The two recent instances in town should serve as a reminder that we need to stay vigilant, and follow those recommended protocols we've been hearing about for months: stay at home if you can, wash your hands regularly, wear a mask, practice social distancing, etc. We should also expect that, even doing all those things, we will likely see increased outbreaks over the coming months.

Beyond those safety protocols, the best thing we all can do is get tested regularly, to ensure we aren't inadvertently spreading the virus to others. The Town will continue partnering with East Windsor Public Schools and with Priority Urgent Care to offer live virus testing and antibody testing at East Windsor High School every Wednesday from 10am to 3pm. This is open to anyone, all insurances are accepted, copays are waived, and folks are encouraged to schedule appointments ahead of time by calling 860-454-0678. If Wednesday's aren't convenient for you, you can find an alternate testing site by visiting ct.gov/coronavirus.

The Board of Selectmen have been working hard to address the longstanding tax disparity issue affecting residents of the Warehouse Point Fire District. An ordinance has been drafted that would resolve the situation, and there will be a Virtual Town Meeting to discuss it this evening on Zoom. The meeting information and draft ordinance can be found on the Town's website. No vote will take place this evening, and consideration of the ordinance will be a ballot question on the November ballot.

Paulo Coelho said that, "Life has many ways of testing a person's will, either by having nothing happen at all or by having everything happen all at once." 2020 has certainly lived up to that, and as we continue to deal with COVID-19 and move the town forward, I wish you continued good health.

Sincerely,

Jason E. Bowsza First Selectman

www.eastwindsor-ct.gov

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